

REMEMBER NOVEMBER!

Through 1949 remember the victory of Nov. 2, 1948. Follow through! Organize and educate! Let's keep this democracy in the hands of the people, where it belongs!

MONTEREY COUNTY

LABOR NEWS

VOL. XI—NO. 23

SALINAS, CALIF., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1949

WHOLE NO. 539

IBEW, Contractors Must Prepare for Slump—Milne

Belief that a recession or decline is just around the corner and warning that his union will not permit its members to become victims of mismanagement and vicious competition in the electrical contracting industry, was expressed by J. Scott Milne, former San Franciscan now international secretary of the IBEW in a speech before several hundred contractors and union officers at the Moose City Club in Oakland on Thursday, Jan. 27.

He urged contractors to get their house in order today, by getting rid of excessive inventories, and unfair competition. Every contractor, he said, was entitled to a fair overhead and fair profit but getting those things by chiseling on wages and conditions could wreck the electrical contracting industry, weaken the IBEW, and soften the economic and social fabric of the whole nation.

PUBLIC BOSS

He urged a strong and enlightened national Electrical Contractor's Association as well as a strong union and to stress the pitfalls of excesses by either, placed both at the corner of a triangle with the public on the third corner at the apex. The public, he said, will balance the triangle when either side moves too far to the right or left, just as it did when management got the Taft-Hartley act on the law books.

He warned that such laws would mean an end to such joint meetings as the one he was addressing, would stifle the free enterprise of both employers and union men. He asked the contractors, as a matter of self-interest and as good Americans to join Labor in imploring Congress to repeal the Taft-Hartley act.

"Let's be builders," Milne cried in closing, "let's work together. If we do this, if we look to the future instead of into the past, free enterprise will prevail, Americanism will stand."

APPLAUDED

Milne's talk was applauded widely and favorably commented upon by both the contractors present and the big group of union representatives from all over the ninth IBEW jurisdiction.

Milne also:

1. Pointed to the progress being made all over the nation, and especially in California, in writing the one per cent pension fund contribution into contracts, and urged the contractors to co-operate with the Brotherhood in securing this widely-praised provision. He said the International would approve no contracts written without this feature. Local union managers who accept contracts without it are being removed, he warned, and the courts have upheld this position.

2. Saw the fourth round of increases to living standards putting more emphasis on inclusion of such fringes as the one per cent pension contribution, sick leave, and insurance.

3. Urged the wire contractors to get into line contracting.

4. Asked both the contractors and union representatives to take more interest in the Joint Apprenticeship training program.

In connection with the latter, Milne pointed out that even though there was more unemployment in the electrical industry at the present time than at any time in the last twenty years, the interest of the IBEW demanded that high work standards be maintained.

The vortex of unemployment in the industry would throw the less competent around its fringes and leave a basis for chiseling that would be bad for everyone. Good apprentices should be developed and those war-born electricians with improper training and short experience should go to school to protect themselves and the union, he said.

WANT AIR-LIFT

Touching briefly on conditions he found in his recent visit to Europe, he said that he had gotten right into the workers' homes in Germany for a firsthand look at their conditions and their thoughts. He also managed to spend a short time on the Russian side of the Iron Curtain. "The gist of the workers' thoughts there," he said, "despite privations, was 'Tell General Clay to continue the air lift and Communism will be defeated.'"

He pointed out that though Socialism as practiced in England had its good points, that under it the people there were getting only 20 cents worth of meat a week, two ounces of butter, and no fresh fruit. He also noted that very few of the leaders of the Socialist government were of a union background, but were mostly politicians.

In Canada, where one province had gone to Socialism similar to that of England, he said, Labor unions were barred from representing the workers in the nationalized industries.



J. SCOTT MILNE, IBEW secretary, warns that a recession is impending and that labor and management should act jointly to cushion it, in Oakland address.

Bill on Full Employment Is Introduced

Washington.—A bill to give substance to the long-range prosperity plans outlined in President Truman's recent messages to Congress was submitted to both House and Senate last week. Sponsors are: Senators James Murray (Mont.) and John Sparkman (Ala.) and Rep. Wright Patman (Tex.)—all Democrats.

Under the new full employment proposal a reformed Reconstruction Finance Corp. would be permitted to loan up to 15 billion dollars to private businesses and public authorities to "maintain the levels of production, employment and investment" called for in the President's speeches.

While existing business enterprises, including cooperatives, would have first call on the fund, money would also be available to state governments and "regional authorities," like TVA, to expand industrial facilities under their control.

More even distribution of industry between the various sections of the country should be one of the guides to RFC in making full employment loans, the bill's authors said.

The three legislators denied that the bill is particularly designed to meet the crisis in steel production cited in Truman's state of the union message, but they said it could be applied to the steel industry if necessary. Its main purpose, they emphasized, is to provide a backlog of investment to meet possible declines in production and employment standards.

Filing of Non-Red Oaths Drops 28% in December

Washington.—The National Labor Relations Board reported that 76,851 officials of national and local unions have on file current non-Communist affidavits, a decrease of 28 per cent from the number on file at the end of November 1948.

This was a decrease of 29,383 from the 106,234 who had maintained current affidavits as of November 30, 1948. The 76,851 affidavits currently on file represent an increase of 151 per cent over the 30,651 who had filed up to January 1, 1948.

Filing of these affidavits brought 178 national unions and 7889 locals into full compliance with the affidavit and financial report requirements of the Labor-Management Relations Act as of December 31.

Frey, Haggerty on Apprentice Com.

Washington.—Four unionists are now members of the federal committee on apprenticeship. Secretary Tobin said last week. Fred N. Aten, Railway Employees Dept. (AFL) president; John P. Frey, Metal Trades Division (AFL); John Green, president of Industrial Union of Marine Workers (CIO); and C. J. Haggerty, California Federation of Labor secretary, are members of the national labor-management apprenticeship policy making body.

SALINAS CLU CHANGES DATE OF ELECTIONS

Annual elections of officers for the Monterey County Central Labor Union at Salinas will be held henceforth in June and new officials will be installed at the first July meeting, Secretary W. G. Kenyon reported last week.

The change in election date from the former July-August schedule was voted along with several other amendments to council by-laws during the last two meetings of the council, Kenyon said.

Another amendment to the by-laws will set up machinery for an autonomous building trades committee for the Salinas area working as an individual unit but under the charter of the central council, Kenyon added.

Robert Shinn, council president, has been named to the Home Nursing Committee of the Red Cross chapter in Salinas.

New delegate is Jean Hance, from Retail Clerks Union 839 of Salinas.

Salinas Elec. Wkrs. Get Own Phone; More to PG&E Job

A private telephone for Salinas Electrical Workers Union 243 has been installed in offices of Business Representative Carl Lara, he announced last week. Number is Salinas 2-2886.

Lara reported that five more electricians were sent to the Pacific Gas & Electric Co. project at Moss Landing last week, bringing to 19 the number of electrical workers on this big project.

In Salinas, Enterprise Electric Co. has started wiring of new homes being erected in the Mission Park subdivision by Pacific Builders, Lara added.

Enterprise Electric Co. also is doing wiring on the Thrifty Drug Co. store in the new Salinas business development on South Main Street.

Louis Electric Co. is wiring the cement mixing plant being built at the Pacific Gas & Electric Co. project site by Pacific Builders to supply cement for foundations and other work in connection with the buildings.

Summer Fish Canning Plans Still Unknown

No plans for summer canning of fish along Monterey's famed Cannery Row have been made known to officials of the Fish Cannery Workers Union, it was reported last week.

The "Row" is quiet generally although a few sardines are coming by truck from southern ports, officials said. Local sardine fishing season ended January 15.

Start of the summer season is April 15 and several plants are expected to operate during summer months. Anchovies will be packed by some plants during the interim, and possibly some squid, according to reports.

PG&E Cafeteria Is Fully Union

Contract covering the new cafeteria for the P. G. & E. plant construction project at Moss Landing was signed last week by James White, for the Associated Caterers, and Culinary-Bartenders Union 345 of Watsonville, which has jurisdiction.

White formerly was chef at Rio Del Mar Country Club. Chef for the cafeteria, which is expected to feed more than 2000 men at height of the project, will be Andrew Siebes, formerly of Loma Linda restaurant near Watsonville.

Teamster Hurt In Cycle Crash

Lawrence Blakeman, member of Monterey County General Teamsters Union 890 and driver for Salinas Valley Ice Co., was confined to Park Lane Hospital last week-end with a fractured leg, the injury incurred when the motorcycle which he was operating was involved in a crash.

Blakeman would like to have visitors at his hospital bedside and the Visiting Committee of Local 890 has been requested by union Secretary Peter A. Andrade to make as many contacts as possible. Friends of Bro. Blakeman are urged to visit him.



FAMOUS PIANIST GETS UNION CARD.—America's best-known pianist, President Truman (center), receives solid gold membership card from President James C. Petrillo (right) of the American Federation of Musicians (AFL). AFL President William Green looks on.

Truman Outlines World Fair Deal at Colorful Inaugural

(AFL Release)

Washington.—An attack on Communism and enunciation of a 4-point program for world peace leadership by the United States highlighted the address of President Harry S. Truman who was sworn into office here before multitudes of people in the nation's most impressive inaugural in history.

Mr. Truman took the oath of office during traditional ceremonies before a crowd of 100,000 people who filled every nook and cranny of the vast plaza before the U. S. Capitol.

Later he received the cheers of nearly 1,000,000 citizens as he rode down Pennsylvania Avenue at the head of an inaugural parade which went on until the lengthening shadows and chillier atmosphere brought the afternoon to a close.

In this celebration organized labor played a part in honoring the man it had helped to elect last November when, according to all forecasts, he was scheduled to be retired from office.

LABOR TAKES PART

AFL President William Green and other top labor leaders participated in the series of inaugural events in honor of the President. James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, served as music chairman for the gala concert and ball. The cheering masses of humanity which witnessed the inaugural parade saw elaborate floats entered by the A. F. of L. Washington Central Labor Union, Labor's League for Political Education, and the American Federation of Musicians.

The President's inaugural address was a major policy statement filled with concrete statements and proposals which he advanced to promote world peace and to protect the interests and well-being of the little average man.

Mr. Truman drew a sharp, straight line between democracy and communism, without the slightest trace of the softening toward Russia which some observers had been suspecting recently.

FORCE OF DEMOCRACY

The Chief Executive asserted that democracy is a vitalizing force, sustaining the initiative which is in our hands, and that we will not be moved from our faith by the Soviet political philosophy.

The heart of his aims Mr. Truman set forth in one, two, three, four fashion. First he reiterated unwavering support of the United Nations and here he made a friendly gesture to such nations now abhorring as Israel, Korea and Indo-

Boss Denham Slows Down

Washington.—Belying General Counsel Robert Denham's post-election threat that he'd continue vigorous enforcement of the Taft-Hartley law, regardless of its rejection at the polls, life has been quieter at the NLRB lately.

During December, a recent board report reveals, not one injunction was asked for by the indomitable Denham. In the two months preceding the elections 11 injunctions were requested.

The board was able to dispose of 15 per cent of its backlog in December, as the number of cases filed declined 21 per cent below the November figure.

Despite Denham's denials, some observers in the nation's capital persist in believing that pro-Taft-Hartley NLRB officials in Washington and in regional offices are easing up, in hopes of rewriting much of Taft-Hartley into any new federal labor law.

STATE TRADES PUSH BILLS IN SACRAMENTO

The recent meeting of the State Building and Construction Trades Council Steering and Legislative committees called in San Francisco by President Frank Lawrence decided that the legislative committee should go to work immediately in Sacramento to push enactment of bills which will aid the state-wide construction trades picture if enacted.

One of these bills would amend the State Building Code to raise the professional standards in the small contractor field, and would aid the industry in getting rid of the Gypo homes contractors who have chiseled on working conditions and wages and bilked the public by selling flimsy built homes. Most of the contractors themselves would like to see this measure passed.

BILLS

Another bill of importance to the trades would amend the labor code to prohibit employers from firing workers who refuse to work under unsafe conditions.

A state uniform plumbing code is also sought which would safeguard the health of members working on the job by requiring contractors to make sanitary privies available as well as drinking water, first aid, etc.

PROGRESS

Since the original organizational meeting, held last year in Fresno, the council has made rapid strides toward becoming the force in state construction circles that its original charterers intended.

Among objectives of the state council are state uniform construction agreements, and all regional contracts are now being sent to the upper body for future comparison and statistical use. A regular statistical department will be set up as soon as a sound basis is laid for financial support. Ten cents per capita has been proposed, but this may be reduced if all trades subscribe to the per capita idea.

On the North Atlantic Security Plan, now crystallizing, Mr. Truman focused his third point. He said: "We will strengthen freedom-loving nations against the dangers of aggression," but only within the recognized framework of the United Nations Charter and in the pattern of the Western Hemisphere arrangement.

In his fourth point Mr. Truman proposed a wholly new program, still to be expounded in detail, for sharing American scientific and industrial progress with the rest of the world. He made the proffer on a global scale, but it was understood that it is intended primarily for the colonial areas of Africa and Asia.

The steering committee will meet again soon in Santa Barbara to agree on an agenda for a state convention — it will be called for the latter part of June, possibly also in Santa Barbara, if facilities are available.

On the committee are Louis Buck, W. A. Garoni, Al Clem, A. J. Lund, Edward Brady, L. T. Long and James T. Mann. Seven men are on the legislative committee and both are representative of the building trades from all sections of the state.

Painters Busy In Salinas Area

Union Painters and Linoleum Layers of Salinas Local 1104 are finding more and more employment, Business Representative Carl Lara reports.

Projects include: A. G. Sullberg, San Francisco painting contractor, has started work on the Santa Lucia school project.

George White, Salinas contractor, is completing work on Dunn's Stationary Store, where Wharton Floor Covering Co. is using union men to lay linoleum.

Lay-Rite Floor Covering Co. is doing linoleum work on the Crosby Music Store.

Wharton Floor Covering Co. has contract for linoleum work on the new telephone warehouse on Griffin street.

New Bathhouse At P. G. Started

Construction of a new bathhouse at the swimming pool at the beach in Pacific Grove was started last week by Stolte, Inc., general contractor. The projects is expected to cost nearly \$50,000.

Teachers in Congress

Washington.—Four members of the American Federation of Teachers (AFL) won Congressional seats in the recent election. Senators Paul Douglas and Hubert Humphrey, and Representatives Andrew Biemiller and Thurman Crook have all had long experience as fighters for union and educational benefits.

TEMO ELECTION FOR TRUSTEE IS CALLED OFF

TO MEMBERS OF TEAMSTERS UNION No 890:

There will be no election for trustee next Thursday, as originally scheduled, due to action of Tom Rubio, incumbent trustee, who declined to seek reelection.

Rubio withdrew because of inability to give necessary time to continue as officer of Local 890, according to Secretary A. Andrade. Rubio has been an active member and a good officer for past years, Andrade added.

As result of Rubio's action, the office of trustee automatically goes to Henry Parma, construction driver, who was the only other nominee. Para, for many years active in the union, will serve for three years.

Picketing Due At Prison Farm Near Soledad

Action of Governor Warren of referring back to the state director of the department of correction the dispute over use of state prisoners in building trades work may result in picketing of the medium security prison near Soledad, union officials said last week.

Protests filed by Salinas unions with Mr. Magee, head of the department of correction, against use of convict labor on work usually done by contract labor proved fruitless several weeks ago, thereby causing the protests to be referred to Warren.

While no plans are laid as yet for any such action, it was pointed out that contractors as well as union people suffer from the state's apparent new policy of using prisoners for erecting new buildings.

Picketing of the Soledad prison farm, where union workmen are building a sewage disposal system now while prisoners are erecting a dairy barn, warehouses and other buildings, might cause the establishment of a definite state policy for such matters, officials said.

A meeting of officials of building trades unions affected will be called soon to work out policy. Warren's action of referring the proposition to the correction director was outlined in a letter received by W. G. Kenyon of the Central Labor Council.

More Carpenters On PG&E Project; More Work Due

Several more union carpenters from Salinas were sent to the Stone & Webster Construction Co., erecting a new Pacific Gas & Electric Co. plant at Moss Landing, last week, George R. Harter, business agent of Carpenters Union 925 reported.

With the number of carpenters on the \$50,000,000 project now at 37, Harter said he has hope for a steady increase in calls for men. Only members of Local 925 are being referred to the job at present, Harter added.

Work at present includes footings for main plant buildings, boxing of pilings, erection of warehouses and storage sheds, and similar jobs, he said.

In the Salinas area, Stolte Construction Co. is starting excavation for the new S. H. Kress Co. variety store on South Main Street.

Contractor Vernon R. Huck is beginning work on the new Alisal Junior High School.

'Pep' Pickets Ordered Off Salinas Unit

Sympathy picketing of the Pep Creamery unit in Salinas was halted last week by the international union of culinary workers and bartenders last week after pickets had patrolled before the house for 13 hours.

Action by International President Hugo Ernst of the union was based on the point that the Salinas unit is under a contract with Local 467 of Salinas and that picketing might be illegal.

Meanwhile, picketing of Pep Creamery units in Monterey, Santa Cruz and Watsonville was being continued by Local 483 of Monterey and Local 345 of Santa Cruz County.

No new developments were reported last week as the dispute entered its seventh week. No settlement was in sight, either, it was added.

OUR AIM:

To create a better understanding among Labor, Industry, and the Public. To promote and develop a stronger AMERICAN and DEMOCRATIC editorial and news policy of A. F. of L. ideals.

Injunction, Suit Facing CIO Drivers

Taxicab companies at Salinas, under contract with AFL Teamsters Union 890 took a stand against the CIO Transport Workers Union which has been trying to "raid" the taxi drivers here last week, filing a suit for \$30,000 damages against the CIO union and winning a court injunction to prevent further picketing of AFL cabs by the CIO.

The complaint was filed with Superior Judge H. G. Jorgensen by William Packwood and Lester Rogers, co-operators of Salinas and Carl's cabs; Wayne Emley and Fred Emley, Sr., operators of Yellow and Checker cabs, and Merle Morrison, operator of Pack and Carl's cabs; Wayne Emley and Emley's.

Specifically, the CIO was charged with having "combined, conspired, confederated, schemed, planned and agreed" . . . "by and through willful misrepresentation, false statements, boycotts and threats, picketing" and by other means to bring about violation of the agreement between the union companies and the AFL union.

Defendants are the Salinas local of CIO Transport Workers, the international union, Organizer Jack Sherry for the union, and Gay Mathis, said to be Salinas local president, plus unspecified employees of the union.

The complaint adds that the CIO is in no way reasonably related to conditions of labor in the Salinas taxicab industry and charges that the AFL-CIO dispute over representative of drivers is "apparent retaliation" against the AFL union which holds the contract.

A few weeks ago when the AFL negotiations with the taxi firms were deadlocked, prior to the signing of a new agreement, the CIO moved into Salinas and "unionized" four non-union companies, Tex-Homa, Ace, City and Dependable, and then started picketing cab stations of the companies under AFL agreement. Nineteen downtown AFL cab stands were picketed by CIO pickets.

Judge Jorgensen's restraining order enjoins the CIO from picketing the cab stations, from threats or interfering with the contractual relationship between companies and the AFL.

It was pointed out that the action is in no way directed against the AFL Teamsters Union.

Damages of \$30,000 asked includes \$10,000 for each of the companies. Sidney L. Church is attorney for the taxicab companies.

Peter A. Andrade, secretary of the AFL Teamsters Union, said that the action by the taxicab companies had taken the fight away from the unions momentarily, but added that the AFL union will "continue the fight to unionize Texhoma, Ace, City and Dependable cab companies until the AFL agreement is in effect with these companies and AFL members discharged have been reinstated."

Salinas Plumbers Urge State Code

Plumbers Union 503 of Salinas will contact Assemblyman James Silliman and urge him to vote favorably on Assembly Bill 1927, drawn up by the Northern California Council of Plumber Unions recently and calling for all unincorporated area in the state to be placed under the Uniform Plumbing Code, in effect in all progressive urban areas.

Al Everly, business agent of Local 503, received a communication from President Dan MacDonald of the Northern California council, telling of the hopes of the plumber group to set up uniform installation provisions for plumbing. He said the union would act favorably on the request to contact Assemblyman Silliman.

Building Trades Heads Meet Again

Salinas building trades union heads met last week in Salinas with leaders of the Monterey County Building Trades Council for another conference in regard to affiliation of Salinas unions with the county council.

Attending the meeting were Carl Lara, of Electricians 243 and Painters 1104; J. B. McGinley and R. Fenchel, of Laborers 272; Al Harris and W. Wilkerson, of Teamsters 890, and Al Everly, of Plumbers 503.

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RUNNING U. S. RIGHT

Since our late war ended a large portion of our press and publicists generally have been giving an abnormal amount of attention to the running of affairs in Europe, Asia and even Africa and correspondingly little attention to the running of affairs in the United States.

Till the election of Nov. 2nd there was a widespread and deep-seated movement on to turn the running of our country over to big business, which could not possibly have resulted otherwise than in the destruction of many labor unions, many small business enterprises and the bankruptcy of many independent farmers. The purpose of all the war talk and red scares was probably to set up a smoke screen while big business was taking over.

Now that the American people with their votes have halted this swing to complete domination by big business is it not high time that we began giving more thought to the running of our own United States and not so much attention to the affairs of foreign countries.

No matter what we do or don't do the people themselves of every country on the face of the earth will have to solve their own problems. The less we meddle with their international affairs the better. If we can run our own country so well that others will want to follow our example we will really become a world influence for good. Let us get busier than ever putting our own house in order.

MORE THAN GESTURES REQUIRED

There was a time when cunning politicians could go a little ways in the direction of doing something for which the general public was clamoring loudly, then justify their action with the explanation that it was a gesture in the direction of doing something that a large part of the people wanted. For a time this method of soft-soaping the voters proved quite effective in gaining votes. It seems to many that it was an improvement on the former position of most politicians to do absolutely nothing for the majority of the people who had elected them.

Today, however, mere gestures are very much out of date and are no longer the vote-getters they used to be. The reason is that our people are no longer inclined to be satisfied by outbursts of this nature. The average citizen among the American voters demands something more substantial than just a gesture. If repeal of the Taft-Hartley act was promised, most of our people, who are demanding such repeal, expect just that and will not be satisfied by something far short of what was promised or which goes only part way in that direction.

The politician of today, who stakes his hopes on making a few gestures, is liable to find himself elected to stay home next time he tries for re-election. Today we expect our lawmakers to deliver what they promised instead of handing us some miserable substitute. No longer will empty and ineffective gestures suffice.

GHOSTS AND SCARES

Many of our older people can remember a time when ghosts made up a pretty large portion of the thinking and beliefs of a considerable number of people. They imagined they could hear and see ghosts during the spooky hours of night and the numerous tales they had heard made the world of spooks something vividly real to such people as believed these night prowlers actually existed.

Today there are people, who still believe in ghosts, but they are not nearly so numerous as they used to be. However, we do have a type of phantom that is exceedingly prolific in modern thinking. Our political atmosphere is fairly reeking with scare upon scare until a lot of people see the equivalent of imps of various descriptions in every political move that is made. They actually see red, wherever they go.

What these much maligned and vividly painted characters of today actually believe or are really doing during their spare moments nobody seems to have very tangible information about but like the ghosts of old they are greatly feared by those who have been told over and over again that they constitute the chief menace to human society today, until many normally intelligent people devoutly believe it. As with the witches of old, some hold they should be prosecuted, denied the right to work, deported, and there are those who would have them hanged. Well, since so many of our forbears believed in ghosts perhaps it is not so strange that their children should be easily susceptible to fall for scares that have been carefully cooked up to influence their beliefs and especially their political thinking. But let us not permit these scares to prevent us and our country from continuing to go forward.

The human race is in its best condition when it has the greatest degree of liberty.—Dante.

GRIN or GROAN

He: "Pardon me, dear, but your stockings seem wrinkled."
She: "You brute! I have no stockings on."

A California woman is suing for divorce because her husband would not get his hair cut. When the terms of alimony are announced is when he'll probably get his trimming.

Traffic sign in Pennsylvania village: "Slow. No hospital."

The puzzled electrician called to his partner, "Hey, put your hand on one of those wires."
After his partner did so, the electrician asked, "Feel anything?"
Partner: "No."
Electrician: "Good! I wasn't sure which was which. Don't touch the other or you'll drop dead."

There's always one consolation about matrimony. When you look around you can always see someone who did worse.

A test of good manners is being able to put up pleasantly with bad ones.

A businessman from one of the Latin American republics tells that he wrote a letter placing an order for an engine capable of a thousand revolutions a minute. The letter was intercepted by government agents, whereupon the businessman was called before El Presidente who said: "One revolution a day we can handle, but a thousand revolutions a minute—too much."

"The Taft-Hartley Act isn't half bad," the speaker declared.
"No," the union man in the second row chirped in, "it's ALL bad!"

When the white men discovered this continent, the Indians were running it. No taxes, no national debt, and the women did all the work. The palefaces thought they could improve on a system like that!

Husband: "You must think automobiles grow on trees."
Wife: "Silly! Everybody knows they come from plants!"

There are 20,000,000 women in the U. S., says the Bureau of Labor Statistics, who are essentially idle. These women have no children under 18, they are not gainfully employed, they do not work on farms nor are they too old or otherwise unable to work. With all that is yet undone in the world they are bored stiff.

Hitting the ceiling is a poor way of getting up in the world.

Our niece's young daughter got her first glimpse of the real Santa this Christmas. She told us all about it. She said she was awakened by some noise and saw Santa at the mantle filling her stocking. The light was very dim but she saw him complete his job, turn away, stub his toe on a chair and say "Damn," and then get into bed with her mother.

Bess Ellis told us that Swedish boys call their girl-friends "Smorgasbroads."

A college education enables a girl to get a job as secretary to a man who never went to school.

Persons avaricious—
Always are suspicious—
Their little grasping sphere
Is filled with money fear—
They seem to have a living dread
Of being hard up when they're dead!

America is a country of wide-open faces, is made up of 48 states and the State of Poverty where most of us live.—American school-boy's essay.

We all forgive and forget; how else could politicians be re-elected? —"The Word."

CONSTRUCTION

(Courtesy "Daily Pacific Builder")
Eastbay sewer, Section 4, N. Interceptor, Berkeley to Bay Bridge approach, \$1,435,160, Stolte, Inc.

S. F., office, warehouse bldg., L. J. Meyberg, Valencia and McCoppin, plans up, \$500,000.

Marin convent, San Anselmo, \$900,000, Robt. McCarthy, S. F.

Mountain View subdivision, under way, \$10 million, Los Altos Land Co.

San Mateo, apt. bldgs. (10), Hillsdale, D. D. Bohannon, permits.

Columbia Basin Proj., river, spillway improvements, Odair, Wash., \$1,804,000, Pacific Bridge Co., S. F.

S. F. parochial high school, Phelan and Judson, \$2,507,570, Cahill Bros.

Oregon dam, N. Santiam River, Detroit Dam, \$20 million, bids in.

Fresno powerhouse, at Edison Big Creek No. 3 plant, So. Calif. Edison Co., plans up, \$19,406,500.



U. S. CONSTITUTION CONTROLS INFLATION AND DEFLATION LAWS

By A. F. ESTENSEN

Inflation and deflation are caused by the unconstitutional use of the money and credit of the U. S. A. by the domestic and international financiers who selfishly collect a tribute from the Government that gives them free of any charge whatsoever (except the cost of printing) the money and credit they use in their financial exploitation of our nation. "See National Bank Act of 1863 and subsequent financial regulations."

The legislative branch of our government has the power under the U. S. A. Constitution to borrow money on the credit of our country. See article one, section eight, paragraph two. They also have the power to coin and regulate the value of money; see article one, section eight, paragraph five.

It is up to you to recommend to your congressmen and your senators to use the most economic and sensible method to finance U. S. Government projects in peace or war.

Now about Gold, Thomas Edison said, quote, "Gold is not money until the people of the United States and other nations put their stamp of approval on it. It is not the Gold that makes the dollar, it is the dollar that makes the gold. Take the dollar out of the gold, and leave it merely yellow metal and it sinks in value. Gold is established by law, just as silver was and gold could be disestablished, demonetized by law just as silver was."

Mr. Thomas Edison goes on: "The people are so ignorant of what they think are the intricacies of the money system that they are easily impressed by big words, but maybe we have passed beyond the time when only the thoughtful two per cent of the people think. The only dynamite that works in this country is the dynamite of a sound idea. I think we are getting a sound idea on the money question, the people have an instinct which tells them that something is wrong and that the wrong somehow centers in money." End of quote.

John Adams wrote to Thomas Jefferson in 1787, quote, "All the perplexities, confusion and distress of America arise, not from defects in the constitution or confederation, not from want of honor or virtue, so much as from downright ignorance of the nature of coin, credit, and circulation." End quote.

A former member of Congress has observed, quote, "The bulk of Government bonds are held by banking institutions and the banks purchased them without using their own money or taking any risk."

"Here is how the trick is worked: If a bank wishes to buy a million dollars worth of bonds, it gives the Government credit on its books for that amount. If the bank later should run short of cash, it can put up the bonds as security for a million dollars worth of Government currency (cash). The banks continue to own the bonds and to draw interest on them." End of quote.

Mr. E. F. Bartlett, fiscal assistant Secretary of U. S. Treasury, said, quote, "Federal Reserve notes are printed in 12 subject sheets and at the present time it costs approximately \$120 to produce 1,000 sheets or 12,000 notes, which is at the rate of one cent each." End of quote. You will observe that most of the currency in your purse is called Federal Reserve notes. The 12 Federal Reserve Banks are all privately owned and receive currency, money, actual cash from our government at the rate of one cent a bill from the \$5 to \$100,000 denominations.

It is every intelligent American's duty to protect his country and to protect the right of every citizen to the freedoms guaranteed him in the Constitution of the U. S. A. with its Bill of Rights, especially his economic freedom, by prevent-

ing any class, social, political, or financial, to use fraudulently the money and credit of our country that threatens the economic equality of all free Americans and the birthright of our people.

Let us take an inventory of what effect Government financing has on the taxpayer and who the bulk of money collected in taxes goes to:

When we issue bonds to finance a government project, we finish up with paying for this same project twice, sometimes three times, the original cost. If we would issue currency, directly, only those who contributed in some useful way in material, labor and engineering skill would receive any money.

Thomas Edison said, quote, "The element that makes the bond good makes the bill good also. Both are promises to pay; but one promise fattens the usurer and the other helps the people." End of quote.

Andrew Jackson said, quote, "If Congress has the right under the Constitution to issue paper money it was given to them to be used by themselves, not to be delegated to individuals or to corporations. In 1863 Congress relinquished that power and turned it over to the banks of the country, under the National Banking Act."

"Under this act, even though the Government prints the money, it cannot be used to pay for goods or services directly. The money must be turned over to the banks free from interest charges. When the Government itself needs to raise money, it issues bonds and borrows back from these same banks the money issued them yesterday and pays interest on it." End of quote.

That raises the question. How long are you as an important stockholder in the greatest business on earth, the Government of the U. S., going to tolerate the misuse of the money and credit of this nation?

Let this be every true American's economic doctrine: "I challenge the right of anyone to charge the Government of my country interest on its own credit and money."

AUTO HINTS

Gasoline Economy—An automobile engine consumes more gasoline when the car is driven with under-inflated tires. Under-inflated tires cause greater road friction, thereby requiring more power.

Vast Difference—Traffic accident records reveal that there's a world of difference between careful driving and reckless driving—and in too many instances, it's the difference between this world and the next.

Lean Mixture—Many cars, particularly older models, have combination fuel and vacuum pumps, and on such cars a cracked vacuum pump diaphragm may cause excess air to be drawn into the intake manifold. The result is too lean a fuel mixture to some cylinders. Sluggish windshield wiper action on hills is a clue to this trouble.

Look Before You Turn—When making a U-turn on an open highway, be careful. Slow down, and look in both directions before turning. Remember, also, that the California Vehicle Code prohibits such a turn on a curve or on a grade, unless the driver making the turn can be seen by an oncoming driver for a distance of at least 200 feet.

Lean Mixture—Many cars, particularly older models, have combination fuel and vacuum pumps, and on such cars a cracked vacuum pump diaphragm may cause excess air to be drawn into the intake manifold. The result is too lean a fuel mixture to some cylinders. Sluggish windshield wiper action on hills is a clue to this trouble.

SING OUT THE NEWS—Jubilant United Auto Workers (AFL)

members have something to sing about after winning their strike against the Rockwell Manufacturing Co. in Pittsburgh. Musical encouragement during the strike turned picket lines into conga lines.

Homes Short, 1 1/2 Million is Need in 1949

Washington—The construction industry in 1948 came within 1 per cent of the record set in 1925 for the erection of new nonfarm dwelling units, according to reports released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Builders started 56,000 homes in December to bring the total for the year to an estimated 626,800, as compared with the record of 937,000 units started in 1925. The bureau said that final totals for 1948 may exceed 930,000.

The total for the year is disappointing when matched against the unfulfilled demand for homes in the low-priced brackets. To ease the nation's housing crisis it has been estimated that at least 1,500,000 homes are needed yearly for the next decade.

DROPS DURING YEAR

The year began with a spurt of activity which, if continued, might have come close to this estimated need. During the April-July period new home starts averaged close to 100,000 a month. Then, as the cumulative effect of high prices began to be felt even among the high-income groups, the number of housing starts dropped off and approached the more normal pre-war seasonal pattern.

December housing starts were 9000 under the November total and 2800 fewer than in December, 1947. For the entire year, BLS estimates placed 1948 activity at 9 per cent, or 77,800 units, above the number of dwellings started in 1947.

RENTALS STILL LOW

Construction of rental-type, 2-or-more family structures, played an important part in the early 1948 housing gains. In the first quarter of the year, 1 out of every 5 units started was of the rental type. Although the proportion gradually decreased in subsequent months, rental housing in 1948 comprised 17 per cent of the total number of units put under construction, as compared with 13 per cent for 1947. In the housing boom of the middle and late 20s, however, 40 per cent of all new dwelling units started were of the rental type.

The rise in the average construction cost, excluding land costs and builders' profits, of all privately financed 1-family dwelling units put under construction during 1948 was not so pronounced as in 1947. The average cost of this type of dwelling unit rose 34 per cent during 1947, while in 1948 the increase amounted to about 8 per cent. This increase takes into account not only the rise in costs of materials, labor, and other building costs, but also changes in the type of houses being built.

Los Angeles and New York led all other cities in 1948 as well as 1947 in the number of local building permits issued during the year for new non-farm houses. Two states, California and Texas, each had four cities among the 20 cities leading in this respect.

Put Poor People In Poor Houses

The Real Estate Lobby demands an end to Rent Control and is opposed to the passage of any legislation by the 81st Congress that will result in the building of more houses.

One of its members has constructed a motto for the lobby. It is as follows: "POOR PEOPLE BELONG IN POOR HOUSES."

REPEAL TAFT-HARTLEY ACT, RE-ENACT WAGNER LAW, THEN GO PLACES

By ROBERT W. GILBERT

Attorney and Labor Union Consultant

Early in 1946, this writer expressed the viewpoint in the Southern California Law Review that—

"... the background of diverse and piecemeal legislation, overlapping administrative agencies, conflicting principles, and a division of authority between different levels of government ... makes it imperative that Congress make a deliberate and thoroughgoing study of its own before attempting to set the future course of government in post-war industrial relations."

On February 18, 1947, President William Green of the American Federation of Labor, told the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare

: "The large number of proposals now before this Committee are ill-considered in the extreme. ... They are premised on an assumption that is entirely without merit, namely that our problems in Labor-Management relations stem from alleged excesses in the practices of trade unions."

"The truth is, of course, that most, if not all, of those problems result from basic new forces that have developed under the changed circumstances of the past 15 years."

"It necessarily follows that the indispensable first step that we must take, if we can hope to cope with those problems in an intelligent and effective manner is to acquire a complete knowledge of those basic forces and of those new circumstances. The American Federation of Labor is prepared to cooperate with this or any other competent committee in making such a study."

This well-reasoned proposal for an objective and impartial investigation of the facts as a prelude to the passage of additional labor legislation was swept aside, and the Taft-Hartley Act hastily passed and repassed over the President's veto four months later.

The protests of the minority members of the House Committee on Education and Labor, headed by Congressman Lesinski were ignored. The procedures recommended by the President in his State of the Union Message on January 6, 1947 including creation of a temporary joint commission composed of 12 members of Congress and 8 President appointees representing the public, management, and labor, "to inquire into the entire field of labor-management relations, and study 'the basic causes of labor-management difficulties'" were swept aside. As the House Labor Committee Minority Report put it, "This bill could have been written by the would-be destroyers of Organized Labor just as well before as after the hearings."

Now, the National Association of Manufacturers and the United States Chamber of Commerce are again seeking to pressure the members of Congress into an impractical and unjust stand with respect to labor legislation. These arms of Big Business seek to dissipate the effects of the overwhelming repudiation of the Taft-Hartley Act by the electorate on November 2d. The advocates of the so-called "one package deal" are insisting that Congress substitute another hasty and ill-conceived statute for the so-called Labor-Management Relations Act, 1947—as a matter of sheer expediency—or, as an alternative, permit the injustices of the Taft-Hartley Act to continue in effect until the thorough study which is essential to a new liberal Federal labor policy can be completed.

As Republican Senator Wayne L. Morse put it at a Labor Conference of New York University last April,—

"The Taft-Hartley law is the product of government by propaganda and pressure. ... The political pressures which were

brought to bear upon the Congress during the weeks of the historic debate over the Taft-Hartley bill in the first session of the 80th Congress made it very difficult to direct the attention of many members of Congress to an analytical consideration of the merits and demerits of various sections and provisions of the proposed labor legislation."

Again, to borrow the words of Senator Morse, "Great sums of money are being spent by powerful economic forces in America in spreading propaganda to convince the many millions of American people, who have never read the Taft-Hartley Law and who cannot be expected to understand in lawyer terms the implications of its multitudinous legal technicalities," only this time the object of this propaganda is to put over the "one package deal."

To avoid a repetition of "government by propaganda and pressure," the Taft-Hartley Act should be repealed without any further delay and the Wagner Act restored. A temporary commission along the lines originally advocated by President Truman in January of 1947 should be appointed to study the basic problems of our National labor policy and make recommendations to the Congress. Any less serious and systematic approach to these vital issues is not worthy of the confidence and trust which the American people have bestowed upon the 81st Congress.

NEW CITY RISES FOR ATOMIC WORKERS

Santa Fe, N.M.—A new city to house 1800 construction workers and their families is rising out of the dry tablelands near the atomic city of Los Alamos.

The Atomic Energy Commission has already awarded contracts totaling \$3,200,000 for construction of nearly 400 homes, gas mains, electric lines, sewer and water systems and even a community mail-house. The town, called White Rock, will house men and women who will be employed at Los Alamos in expanding the city for the next five years.

When White Rock is completed, its residents will add to the more than 3000 union workers, largely AFL, who are now employed at Los Alamos and who live either in nearby Santa Fe or in the colorful Rio Grande Valley.

This will give New Mexico labor a more solid grip in state affairs and will undoubtedly be a factor in the minds of many state legislators in the next two months, when they consider the 40 bills labor has introduced in the legislative session now under way.

New Mexico labor gained much stature in soundly defeating an anti-labor little Taft-Hartley bill on Nov. 2, but some labor leaders are worried about the short memories of state legislators. The 1800 new union members will serve as a strong check to any unfavorable action by the legislature on labor's bills.

Then the company would make some concessions in the form of agreements with the employees' association.

"y-you mean it?"



Labor Wants Job and Home Security, Boss Wants Dough

New York.—In a study shortly to be published by the 20th Century Fund, researchers report that while organized labor and management agree on many objectives there are still large areas of disagreement on aims between them. Much of the trouble stems from the unwillingness of many employers to accept trade unions as permanent and necessary institutions, the report finds.

Entitled "Partners in Production," the report will be issued by the Fund's labor committee, of which AFL, CIO, business, university and government officials are members.

LABOR'S AIMS

Labor's basic aims, the committee believes, are:

1. A sense of security both on the job and in the community.
2. Opportunities for workers to advance—fair chances for promotion in the plant and general betterment of their lives.
3. More human treatment on the job—including being consulted on things affecting labor's welfare.
4. A sense of dignity, a feeling of doing useful, constructive work.

BOSSSES' AIMS

Management, on the other hand, stresses these points:

1. Good business for the company.
2. Good relations with employees, including keeping them satisfied with working conditions and retaining their loyalty.
3. Freedom to manage, without interference from workers or their unions.
4. More responsibility on the part of employees and unions, business-like relationships that will assure the company's fulfilling its contracts.

While wage rates are the subject of most negotiations, and seem to cause most strikes, the researchers believe that other factors are actually more important when industrial conflict arises.

Labor has no quarrel with management's desire for good business,

the report points out. But it may not always agree with the bosses' methods of reaching this objective.

"WITH GOV'T HELP"

Workers do not agree with management's view that security can be achieved simply by greater production, however. Labor is more and more of the opinion, the report points out, that only union and government action can guarantee decent living standards.

Unionists believe, the 20th Century Fund says, that if employers genuinely accept the importance of trade unionism a lot of industrial problems will fall into place. They point out that where this is the case there is no conflict between union loyalty and loyalty to the employer. Trouble arises when the bosses either ignore workers' needs, or try to meet them without consulting the workers' chosen representatives.

Start Big Natural Resources Program

Washington.—Senator Joseph C. O'Mahoney (D., Wyo.), announced January 16, that the Senate interior committee will begin extensive work on a huge program of natural resources development at hearings opening January 31.

O'Mahoney declared the country must make the most of its natural resources in order to carry out its international policy and maintain a strong economy at home.

Objectives of the new program, which have gone over in detail with President Truman, were described by O'Mahoney as follows: (1) to improve administration of natural resources, (2) to develop natural resources for a strong domestic economy to back up our foreign policy, (3) to encourage the search for deposits of scarce materials such as manganese.

Alcoa Against Marshall Plan?

Knoxville.—Norwegian labor leaders, seven of them, visiting the U.S. under an Economic Cooperation Administration exchange program, had a hard, but pleasant schedule of visiting AFL and CIO unions, and well-tooled American plants for several weeks. Everybody played ball till the Aluminum Co. of America refused to let one of them, a Norwegian aluminum workers union man, visit its plants. The Marshall plan agency recouped the situation by getting Reynolds Metal Co. to invite the Norwegians to visit one of its mills—one of the few important aluminum units not run by the Mellon trust.

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"Senator PG&E Downey"

By DREW PEARSON

Busy-as-a-bird-dog Senator Sheridan Downey, sometimes called "The Pacific Gas and Electric" Senator from California, has been quite active recently re his own worries over re-election. However, he took time out the other day to do some lobbying which won't help his election chances.

Downey, a likable and convivial Senator, never has bothered too much about his own California colleagues in the House of Representatives. Scarcely had two new Californians settled in their congressional offices, however, but they had calls from good old Sheridan about repealing the 160-acre limitation on water rights in Central California.

Downey followed this up by taking the two new congressmen—Cecil White of Fresno and Clinton McKinnon of San Diego—out to lunch. He made no bones about arguing that they should vote to remove the 160-acre restriction, placed on reclamation projects to help the small farmers.

Congressman White happens to own 6000 acres of California farmland. However, he told the senior Senator from his state that he was barking up the wrong tree. Congressman McKinnon feels likewise.

Sheridan is a persevering gentleman, however. Last year he published a mysterious and expensively bound book called "They Would Rule the Valley" and sent it out as lobbying literature. The book carried no identification as to its publisher or as to who paid for its publication, Downey, the author, is not wealthy, and could not well afford to finance a book with no sales value. But he never did explain who paid for this expensive piece of propaganda literature. (Reprinted from "Fresno Labor Citizen.")

Rheumatic Fever Worse Than Polio

San Francisco.—A report which identifies rheumatic fever as a far worse killer andcrippler of school-age children than polio was submitted to the State Legislature last week by the State Department of Public Health.

The report estimated the number of rheumatic fever victims in California, analyzed facilities and needs for diagnosis, treatment and care of cases, and made detailed recommendations for an intensive state-wide attack on all phases of this problem. The disease was described as one of the most costly to treat due to the long-term hospital and convalescent care required. A summary statement presented to the legislators said in part:

"Rheumatic fever damages the hearts of many of its victims. Its cause is unknown and there is no shortcut cure. The first attack may be followed by others. It is estimated that 7000 afflicted children in California now need special treatment and care if they are to grow up as useful, self-supporting citizens.

"Like tuberculosis, this disease demands many months of bed rest under close medical supervision. Some cases need years of convalescent care, including vocational and other specialized training. Treatment is so expensive that 95 per cent of the families in which rheumatic fever occurs cannot pay for all of it.

In addition to what the private physicians, community health and welfare services must be developed for a more adequate program to combat the ravages of this greatest enemy of childhood. State financial aid seems essential to the job."

According to Dr. Wilton L. Halverson, state director of public health, rheumatic fever cases "have been found in every section of California, and it is certain that hundreds of cases are still unrecognized because this disease is so difficult to diagnose by ordinary techniques."

"These children must be sought out in every community. They must have treatment during acute stages of the disease, and long-term convalescent care. There is no other way to prevent or minimize permanent heart damage," Dr. Halverson declared.

GI Benefits Not Taxable

Disability compensation, pension or subsistence allowance paid to veterans, or their dependents by the Veterans Administration are not considered as income for income tax purposes, L. C. Chapman, manager of the Los Angeles Regional PA office has reminded veterans.

However, income that veterans may earn on part-time jobs while attending educational institutions full-time, or earn while on-the-job training, is subject to taxation under existing tax laws.

Also subject to taxation is the earned income of veterans or their dependents drawing disability compensation or pension. Only the compensation or pension paid by VA is tax-exempt.

Natural gas was first used as an illuminant in 1824, at Fredonia, N. Y.



Monopolies Gobble Up 2450 Little Guys With War Profit

A number to remember is 2450. There is nothing to show that anyone will win a lottery with it. But it is a useful number all the same, because it exposes some of the things which are happening to our country.

Between 1940 and 1948, 2450 independent American businesses disappeared. During all those years business was booming. The 2450 independent concerns were not driven into bankruptcy by hard times. They were swallowed up by dominant monopolies, growing still more dominating.

The artists who paint magazine covers are fond of painting country stores. A scene showing men in work clothes sitting on cracker boxes around a stove, eating apples and swapping philosophies, seems to symbolize free enterprise.

NO MORE TO CONQUER

The only thing wrong with the picture is that the symbol is getting hard to find. A Federal Trade Commission report on mergers says:

"Like Alexander the Great, the modern monopolist may have to bring his merger activities to a halt, owing simply to the imminent absence of 'New Worlds to Conquer.'"

The merger movement has been going on for years. Since 1919, according to the FTC, more than 11,000 independents have been taken over by monopoly. The 2450 simply represent the latest crop. They were snapped up by big concerns with the huge profits which have piled up since the war started.

EXPANSION PRESSURE

As the FTC puts it, profits provide "the financial wherewithal with which to effect merger." Beyond that, the report says, profits "exert a powerful pressure on business to expand." Expansion means not only adding to existing plants, but soaking up the small fry.

The profit picture drawn by FTC is familiar but it can stand repeating. Take 1939 as a base or normal year. Between 1941 and 1944 annual profits after taxes amounted to about \$10 billion, double the 1939 level. In 1946 they were 2½ times as great as in 1939. And in 1947 they had soared to 3½ times the 1939 base.

The FTC figures reveal that most of the mergers during the 1940's were concentrated in a few fields. In the heavy, basic industries most of the merger movement was over long ago. You would not expect the corner electrician to make big generators.

LAST STRONGHOLDS

In foods, textile, clothing and chemical industries mergers have been heaviest. These fields were the last stronghold of the independent producer.

Even so there have been some recent mergers among the giants. For example, in November 1945 Pittsburgh Coal Co. merged with Consolidated Coal Co. Pitt-Consol became thereby the biggest U. S. soft coal producer. In the process, incidentally, there was a linking of two of the country's major financial interests, the Mellons and the Hannas. And, through a joint program of synthetic fuel research,

STRIKERS UNDAUNTED BY RAIN.—Undaunted by rain, employees of the Parker Drug Co. in Brooklyn, N. Y., members of an AFL and an unaffiliated local, maintained solidarity on the picket line until they won all their demands. The workers are members of Local 325, Hotel and Restaurant Employees' International Alliance (AFL) and Local 1199, Retail Drug Store Employees' Union (unaffiliated).

Medical, Dental Aid To Boost Health Insurance

Washington.—Sen. Claude Pepper (D., Fla.) said Jan. 13 that he and two associates are at work on an omnibus health bill which would vastly supplement the proposed national health insurance program.

In conference with Sen. James E. Murray (D., Mont.), co-author of the health insurance measure re-introduced Jan. 5, and Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D., Minn.), Pepper has worked out preliminary stages of the legislation and was awaiting word from the White House to go ahead with it.

The bill would carry out all the health measures proposed in President Truman's state of the union message and would be aimed primarily at broadening and strengthening medical service in all parts of the country, particularly in rural areas.

Plans for health insurance contemplate a tremendously increased demand for medical, dental and nursing care when the program gets into full swing, Pepper explained. The proposed omnibus health bill would result in a greatly increased number of hospitals, physicians, nurses and dentists. The program, worked out by the senators in conferences with Secretary Director Oscar E. Ewing, is divided into the following classifications:

- (1) Federal aid in new hospital construction; (2) federal aid for medical research; (3) aid to medical schools and students including federal scholarships for rural youth who want to get a medical education and return home to practice; (4) a national program of nurse recruitment, including educational opportunities for girls in rural and small town areas; (5) extension of the present U. S. Public Health Service; and (6) an extensive dental program including recruitment of dental students, scholarships and extension of dental services to rural areas.

The proposed bill would supplement the national health insurance program outlined in the bill re-introduced Jan. 5 by Murray and other senators.

Sees Red Labor Plot

London.—A British union leader warned of a Communist plan to disrupt British industry this year with the aim of upsetting European recovery. Arthur Deakin, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers Union, said the Communists would seek to create industrial chaos in Britain as they had done in France last year.

Union Education Started in Maine

Waterville, Me.—The first long-term union education program conducted by Maine's AFL unions gets under way here this week, with presentation of a training program at the monthly meeting of the Maine Textile Council.

Conducted by Sol Davidson, of the United Textile Workers (AFL) research department, the first program will demonstrate the use of film and illustrative material. Subject matter will be the history, traditions and methods of the UTW. There will also be a demonstration of initiation of new members, and an analysis of the present contract of one of the larger Maine textile unions as compared with conditions 10 or 15 years ago.

The Maine State Federation of Labor is also laying plans for a pilot education program in the Millinocket Central Labor Union, as preparation for a state-wide program geared in with the UTW activities.

GOP Inauguration

Washington.—Harry S. Truman of Independence, Mo., was sworn in as President of the U. S. in the most spectacular inauguration ceremony in the memory of Washingtonians. While the ceremony itself was solemn, there was humor in the fact that the elaborateness of the program and setting had been planned by the Republican-led 80th Congress in the expectation that Thomas E. Dewey would take the oath.

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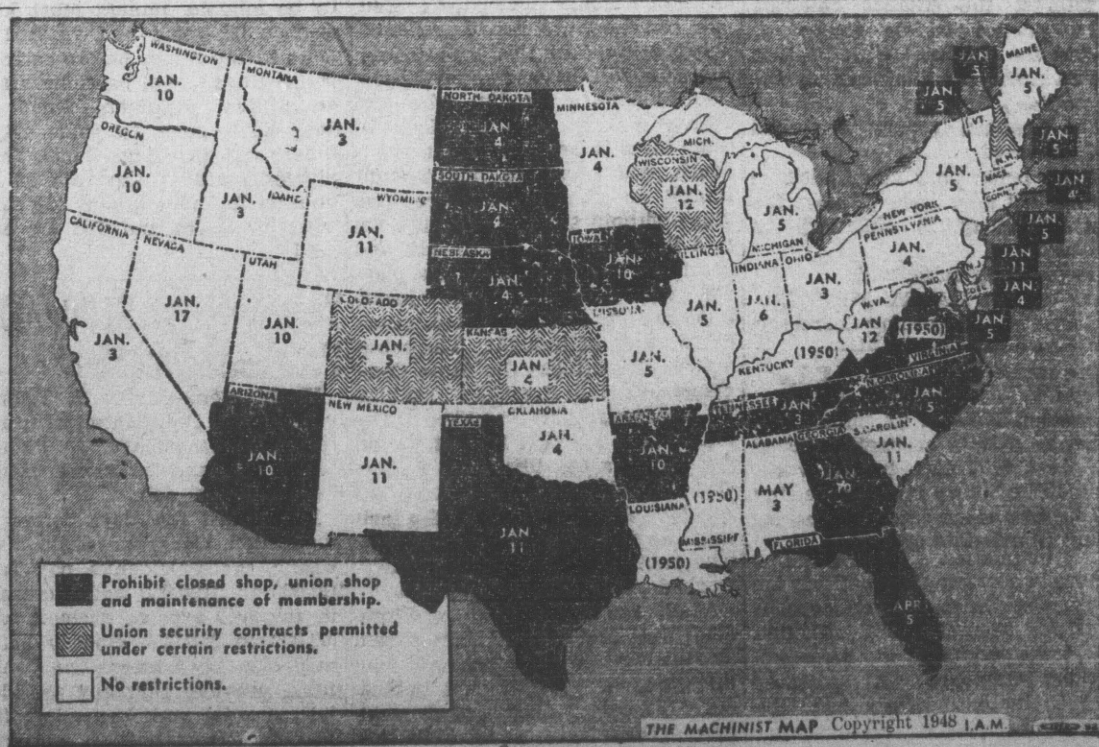
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IMPORTANT TO ALL MEMBERS OF THIS UNION WHO ARE LIVING IN THE SALINAS AREA: Our fight continues against the scab-herding Texhoma Cab Company and their associate companies City, Ace and Dependable Cab Companies. We ask that you refrain from riding Texhoma, City, Ace and Dependable Cabs. They are being picketed by members of your Union. The transport workers, C.I.O., supposedly wrote a back-door agreement while the place was being picketed. Such an agreement is not considered valid in the eyes of labor. At the time such an agreement was written, some of our men, formerly employed by Texhoma were out on the bricks. Everything will be done in order that justice results. **The only fair cab companies in Salinas are: Packard, Yellow, Checker, Salinas and Carls.**

We wish to advise our members again that beginning with April 1, all members must attend at least one meeting every three months. Failure to attend will be subject to a \$2.50 fine unless a valid excuse is given; such excuse will be of course be subject to approval by the Executive Board. If you live in Salinas, you will be asked to attend at least one meeting out of every three—general meetings in Salinas are held at the Carpenters Hall, the first Thursday of every month at 8 p.m.

If you live in Monterey, meetings are held at the Bartenders Hall, 315 Alvarado Street, the second Thursday of every month at 8 p.m.

IMPORTANT: When official notice is given to attend a special meeting for your division regarding negotiations; and failure to attend such meetings, you will be subject to a \$5 fine, on the same basis as has been outlined regarding general meetings.

The next regular meeting in Salinas will be held at the Carpenters Hall on Thursday, February 3 at 8 p.m.

The next regular meeting in Monterey will be held at the Bartenders Hall, 315 Alvarado Street, Monterey, on Thursday, February 10, 8 p.m.

ATTENTION, ALL MEMBERS: Your Union is beginning a drive to organize service stations, garages, and parts houses in this area. We have organized at this time, the Firestone Tire Company at Monterey and San Luis Sts., 100 per cent; Deans Tire Company at Monterey and Gabilan, 100 per cent; LaMarr Brothers at Monterey and E. Market, 100 per cent; Sears Roebuck gas station in Valley Center, 100 per cent; Harry Rhodes and Don Hultz are organized 50 per cent—that is, only the tire shops are organized.

We ask that you patronize these firms and these firms only for your gas and oil and also when you purchase tires. Members of your union who are employed by these firms need your patronage as well as the patronage of all Organized Labor. Remember you took an obligation to help one another; and very certainly we can help one another by patronizing only those employers who employ members of our union and pay decent wages, hours and conditions. A drive will be made regarding patronage of union firms from now on in. As a member of this union, we expect you to be guided accordingly.

Did you receive your Constitution and By-Laws? Read it carefully. Many of the copies that have been mailed out have been returned to this office because many of our members did not give the union their change of address. If you have not received a copy of the By-Laws, be sure to ask for it at the union office.

The drive for DIMES to help polio victims is now on. Contribute to this very important cause in order that thousands of children may be able to walk again.

March 1, the American Red Cross will start their national drive for funds. This year your union will undertake to make collections on behalf of its members. A committee will be set up to handle our share of this great job which has to be done in this area. **REMEMBER ALL MEMBERS AND MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES:** We ask that you contribute to the American Red Cross through your local union. Information regarding the manner in which collections will be made will be found in this column, in the very near future.

Have you received your Insurance Policy? If not, please inform the office of the Union. Pay your dues ON OR BEFORE THE FIRST of every month so that you will keep in good standing and be eligible for any benefits.

Patronize only firms that are union and employ members of this union. Buy only union made merchandise.

Cook Forest, a state forest in the state of Pennsylvania, is approximately 150 years old.

COUNCIL NOTES

NOTES FROM THE MEETING OF JANUARY 18, 1949

The Bus Drivers report that they have been very busy. There has been much sickness among them and they have been helping each other out by driving extra hours, substituting for the sick ones.

The Clerks report that they have made some progress in their organizational campaign. Negotiations are now under way with several establishments.

Due to lack of representation, action against the Karmel Korn Shop was postponed until the next meeting. The Culinary Alliance had asked that this house be placed on the WE DO NOT PATRONIZE list because of its refusal to agree to a union contract with that organization.

The Teamsters reported that the Coca Cola Drivers in Monterey have joined the union and that this establishment is now in good standing and merits the patronage of union members and their families.

The Council voted to place the LUCKY STRIKE PRODUCE COMPANY on the unfair list. The Teamsters reported that this company has refused to enter into a union agreement with them, and they therefore presented to the Council their complaint and requested the above action.

The Monterey Peninsula Central Labor Council views with regret and much concern the omission of the name of Franklin Delano Roosevelt from the promotion material for the MARCH OF DIMES. President Roosevelt was the founder and chief sponsor of the movement and the Council believes that he should not so soon be forgotten.

WAYNE EDWARDS, Secy.

MINUTES

Bldg. Trades Council

Minutes of Building and Construction Trades Council of Monterey County, 315 Alvarado St., Monterey, Calif., January 20, 1949.

Meeting held at 117 Pajaro St., Salinas, Calif.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Alsop at 8:00 p.m. Roll call showed 17 delegates from 9 local unions present.

There were also representatives from Laborers Local Union No. 272, Plumbers Local Union No. 503, Painters Local Union No. 1104, and Teamsters Local Union No. 890 and several other visitors.

Minutes of the previous meeting of January 6, 1949, were read and after some changes, were approved. Minutes of the Executive Board meetings of January 11 and January 19, were read and concurred in by a motion of the council.

COMMUNICATIONS
All communications were read and acted upon.

All bills were read and ordered paid.

BUSINESS AGENT'S REPORT

The various business agents reported on their activities for the past two weeks. Brother Miller, of the council, Brother Every, of Plumbers Local Union, Brother Bolin of Painters Local Union No. 272, Brother McGinley of Laborers Local Union No. 272, Brother Thomas of Laborers Local Union No. 690, Brother Harris of Teamsters Local Union 890 and Brother Foster, of Sheet Metal Workers Local Union No. 304, and Plumbers Local Union No. 62.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The per capita tax committee was reported on by Brother Fales. The Teamsters Local Union 890 offered the use of their Monterey office as an office for the Building Trades Council and also the use of their hall in Salinas as a meeting place for the council when they meet in Salinas.

The delegates present reported on the activities of their locals for the past two weeks.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Brother Harris, of Teamsters Local Union No. 890, reported on parties to be held at regular intervals in the future for the children of Salinas and vicinity. These parties to be free and consist of cartoon pictures and other things to interest the smaller children. These parties to be known as "Labor for Kiddies," with Brother Harris acting as chairman of the committee.

The financial report was read and approved.

There being no further business the council adjourned to meet the first Thursday in February in Monterey.

Respectfully submitted,
HARRY POSTER,
Recording Secretary.

Transit Wks. Get 15¢

Newark, N.J.—A \$2 million decision by a state arbitration board has given 6400 AFL transit workers a 15¢ hourly increase, setting the highest wage rates for the industry in a 3-state area.

"There is now keen competition for entry jobs, which is likely to continue for several years, although the total number of personnel workers employed will probably tend to increase slowly over the long run."

LOCAL 483 REPORTS



**HOTEL AND RESTAURANT
EMPLOYEES & BARTENDERS
ALLIANCE 483
MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA**

Next regular meeting, Wednesday night, February 2nd, 8:30 p.m. There are many important items of Union Business which will bear full discussion, so let's have a large turnout for this meeting.

Your secretary just returned to Monterey after several days in San Francisco, during which meetings were held with representatives of the California State Federation of Labor,

our own international representative, Brother C. T. McDonough, and several other union officials in the Bay Area. The current dispute with the Pep Creameries, Ltd. came in for its share of the discussions.

It is the contention of the Executive Boards of Locals 483 and 345, Watsonville-Santa Cruz area, that when we must fight an organization in order to gain union recognition and a contract, we should fight with every weapon which we can legally and peacefully use. There is nothing to be gained by fighting half-heartedly, but it is a matter of record that the parties who put up a half-hearted resistance invariably wind up on the losing side of the battle. It is certainly not our intention to fall into that category.

As most of you know, the Pep organization operated fountain restaurants in Santa Cruz, Watsonville, Monterey and Salinas. The establishments in the first three cities are all being picketed by our local unions, which are asking for union recognition and a union shop contract. Attempts of the unions to get together with the management of the Pep have been of little success, and the meetings held to date have not exemplified the true spirit of collective bargaining.

The efforts of the California State Conciliation Service to mediate the dispute and assist in reaching a satisfactory settlement have met with failure to date. The Pep, together with its representative, Mr. Robert Norton of the California Employers' Council, has bombarded the newspapers, particularly in the Watsonville and Santa Cruz areas, with "statements," paid advertisements, and the like. A Santa Cruz weekly paper has castigated the unions, their officers and representatives, and has even caricatured the California State Conciliation Service officer, Mr. Thomas Nicolopoulos, an extremely fair-minded and able employee of the State of California. Several union workers have been slandered, and the organized labor movement generally has been the subject of bitter and vituperative attacks. Such is the nature of the individuals and organizations who represent the Pep Creameries, Ltd. in this dispute.

Their tactics, I am happy to report, have not been successful in serving the purpose for which they were intended—the influencing of the general public to disregard the picket lines and patronize the Pep establishments. Quite the reverse is true. Public opinion has been influenced. That is true. But the embittered labor-haters who fostered this sort of campaign have made a fatal mistake. They have assumed that Mr. and Mrs. Public are ignorant, unthinking folk who can do no more than believe what they read in the papers. They failed to give the public credit for their ability to "read between the lines" when smear stories and advertisements are set before them. And the net result of the entire campaign has been to influence even more potential customers than our unions had believed possible—to refrain from making purchases from the Pep establishments. Our picket lines ARE effective. Economic pressure IS being exerted. The peaceful SQUEEZE is on. And the Pep advertising campaign of smear, slander and hate has rebounded and been a factor in influencing public opinion—away from the Pep establishments, and in favor of the union's position.

In smearing and attacking the Culinary Workers' and Bartenders' unions and their representatives, these unprincipled labor-haters also have chosen to attack the labor movement generally. Let me quote a sample from the editorial columns of a Santa Cruz paper: "You may run down the list of professed 'labor leaders' in this land today; but you will have a pretty hard time finding a handful who are natives of the U.S.A. Most of them cleared from Europe in their youth, came here to find 'opportunity' and have lived here like kings without turning their fingers to a lick of honest toil by extracting their livelihood from the payroll of the 'laborer.'" That is just a mild sample of a perverted, antedated mode of thought. The same article also attacks the State Conciliator, the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt, and President Truman. One wondered whether or not thinkers (?) like these realize that President Truman was only recently elected in spite of the fact that nearly 90 per cent of the newspapers in this whole country worked AGAINST his election.

Well, let these rabid reactionaries rant and rave. Their smears and slanders; their attacks and vilifications are just a part of the great American process of give and take. They have a right to use

their voice, and they use that right. And in the process of smearing organizations and individuals, they actually work against themselves. More power to them. May they never lose their rights to use (and abuse) free speech, no matter whom they attack or vilify.

It is the earnest and sincere hope of your officers that negotiations with Pep will be undertaken within the near future, and that they will proceed to bring about a fair and just settlement. Meantime, keep up your very good work of reporting for picket duty to the union office. Many dozens of members have carried far more than their fair share of the load, and they've done it quietly and without complaint. Those of you who have done little or nothing owe a debt to your fellow members, and yes, to yourselves as well. Make it a point to do YOUR SHARE of the work involved in unionism too. Report in to your union office and let's talk it over. We know you all want to help—for you're simply helping yourselves in the process.

The Monterey County Health Department has presented your union with a plan of operation and schedules for the coming spring courses for all food handlers in the county. The union officers feel that each and every member should take advantage of this free opportunity to improve their knowledge of food handling, sanitation, and related subjects. Get up here to the union meetings during the coming few weeks, and let's discuss this important problem thoroughly. When you are contacted to sign up for the lecture and motion picture sessions, cooperate to the fullest extent. Attend every session, because you will learn many things. And your increased knowledge of the culinary business may go a long way toward helping you to protect your own health, as well as the health of your friends and customers.

Don't forget our union meetings. First Wednesday of each month, 8:30 p.m., and THIRD Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. Attend AT LEAST ONE MEETING EVERY MONTH. And—here we go again about money—make sure that your dues and insurance premiums are paid BEFORE THE FIFTEENTH DAY OF EACH MONTH. Protect your membership and your loved ones' future by being a paid-up member at all times.

See you all at the meetings—and on our picket line!

GEORGE L. RICE,

Secretary.

The Miners Are Getting Benefits!

Washington.—The United Mine Workers welfare and retirement fund had mailed nearly one million benefit checks at the close of 1948, Pres. John L. Lewis announced Jan. 16 in the UMW Journal. The bituminous fund, active for 20 months, has paid out some \$68 million in benefits to 260,000 miners and members of their families. A similar program is in effect for anthracite miners.

Efficiency of the program is shown by the fact that death benefit applications are cleared by the fund staff within one day, and disability and pension cases require only a few days, despite careful investigation. The fund has sent out nearly 10,500 death benefit payments of \$1000 each to survivors of UMW members.

Nearly 12,000 miners have retired with \$100 a month pensions from the UMW bituminous fund. To be eligible, miners must have reached 62 years and worked 20 years in the mines before retiring. The average age of pensioners is 66. Disability payments from the fund have gone to some 88,000 miners and their dependents. These payments are at the rate of \$60 monthly for miners, plus \$20 extra for their wives and \$10 for each child.

In the last few days before inauguration, Congress passed a bill raising the President's pay from \$75,000 to \$100,000 and increasing his tax free expense account from \$40,000 to \$80,000. Speedy action was necessary because the Constitution provides that any presidential pay raise must be made before the chief executive takes office.

Realtor Lobby Can't Stomach Co-op Proposal

Washington.—The several million listeners to a December America's Town Meeting of the Air who heard Herbert U. Nelson of the real estate lobby propose support for housing cooperatives learned this week that Nelson's plan has been slapped down by the National Association of Real Estate Boards. Nelson is executive vice president of NAREB.

At their annual meeting here, the real estate interests referred the co-op plan back to a committee thus keeping their 100% batting average as anti-tenant, anti-veteran, anti-anything that might provide homes for low and middle income families.

NLRB Cracks Down on Kearney Company Union

Washington.—The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (AFL) has won a NLRB ruling against the James R. Kearney Corp., of St. Louis, Mo., and the company union established by the corporation's president nearly 12 years ago.

Finding the manufacturing firm guilty of numerous unfair labor practices, the board ordered Kearney to stop supporting the "Kearney Employees Benefit Association," and to void its "contract" with the company union. It also instructed the corporation to notify workers that it will not interfere with their right to join the IBEW.

Back in 1937, shortly after union organizers appeared at its plant, James R. Kearney, Sr., then corporation president, called in his workers and urged the mto form an organization "free from outside unions." From that moment on the company encouraged the employees' association, and for a while even helped finance it by giving it a cut from Coca Cola machines installed in the plant.

Only real advantages came to workers when IBEW men were agitating for Kearney workers' affiliating with an "outside union."

Repeal of 'Full Crew' Law Brings Lower Efficiency

San Francisco.—The repeal of California's "full crew" law for railroad brakemen in last November's election is having its repercussions after two weeks of cut service.

H. T. Bashford, veteran engineer of the Western Pacific Railroad, appeared before the State Public Utilities Commissions to report that his trains had had seven breakdowns since reduction of brakemen from 4 to 2, as is the new practice with 40-car trains.

Bashford pointed out that one brakeman is needed to flag ahead and another flag behind the train when there are breakdowns. Result: No brakeman to make repairs.

Attorney Clifton Hildebrand, represented the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, in a protest against the cut in the number of brakemen.

California's electorate repealed a 35-year-old full crew law by a 63-000 majority out of more than 3,470,000 votes cast. The campaign against the "full crew" law was based on the slogan of "repeal feather-bedding" with cartooned billboards showing a brakeman cushioned on top of a box car singing "I've Been Lolling on the Railroad."

The Constitution of the United States went into effect the first Wednesday of March, 1789.



SWIMS FOR HEALTH.—Mormon Terri Hanrahan of New Jersey poses for the camera after being chosen Miss Florida Swimmer for Health. She can swim, but who cares?

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